

From: Richard Sachen, Jr.
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/23/02 9:56am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

I have read with interest the continuing legal battles over Microsoft's monopoly. While quick resolution has eluded us and the original victim of Microsoft's illegal practices, Netscape, has disappeared as a competitor, the case has made a change in the marketplace. Unlike the early 90s, people with computer related ideas now think of IPOs rather than being bought out by Microsoft.

To the point, I would like to suggest a possible penalty for Microsoft's illegal actions that may have more effect and cost less to enforce than the government's proposed remedy. Since Microsoft has been convicted of abusing their monopoly power, perhaps a suspension of enforcement of their government held monopolies (some or all patents, trademarks, and/or copyrights) for a period of time - say from the release of Windows 95 to 2002, approximately 6 years. By the government simply refusing to uphold Microsoft's monopoly power on patents and copyrights, enforcement costs are zero. The effect of such a move would be to open up competition dramatically.

I am not a lawyer and do not know if this is among the legal remedies available to the court, but removing government enforcement of a monopolist's monopoly power in patents and/or copyrights seems a simple and effective punishment.

Thank you for your consideration,
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